



WHITESTOWN'S WALKING MAN 'WRAPPED' IN PRESENT & PAST

Local Artists Complete Public Art Project in Unique Way

For Immediate Release:

April 28th, 2017

WHITESTOWN, Ind. – Standing 10 feet tall yet securely grounded, the Walking Man statue was designed by Indiana artist Levi Rinker to symbolize mankind's progressive ideal and aim to propel our communities forward.

Whitestown's Walking Man is doing just that, by celebrating our Town's forward momentum while also honoring our past.

Four Walking Man sculptures arrived in Boone County in September of 2016. Purchased through a grant by the Community Foundation of Boone County, they were donated to the communities of Lebanon, Whitestown, Zionsville and Jamestown with the goal of tying the Boone County communities together through art. Whitestown is the first community to finish and display its Walking Man. Thorntown acquired its Walking Man sculpture in the fall of 2015.

"With the trails being a hot-topic locally, we worked closely with local officials and planners to see how we could tie our communities together through these sculptures on and in our local trails and parks." said CFBC President & CEO, Kristi Reynolds.

Whitestown's Walking Man sculpture stands at the trail head of the new Big 4 Trail at 104 S. Main Street, welcoming walkers, runners and bicyclists to enjoy the rail trail that will someday link Zionsville, Whitestown, Lebanon and Thorntown. Long-term plans are for the Big 4 Trail to eventually be about 55 miles long, running all the way to Lafayette. Whitestown's Walking Man art was designed by local graphic artists at Whitestown's own Indy's Pro Graphix. The company wrapped 11 of the 33 Indy Cars at last year's Indy 500. Their wraps can also be seen inside Lucas Oil Stadium and Bankers Life Fieldhouse.

"A lot of the Walking Man statues are being painted." said Town Manager Dax Norton, "We wanted to do something unique and have our piece of public art wrapped instead. Since Whitestown is home to one of the best graphic design company's in the state, it was a no brainer to partner with Indy's Pro Graphix on this project." Said Norton.

"We chose to go with a lot of color and an eclectic mix of images." said Tanya Sumner, Director of Public Relations. "On the back of the sculpture, the artwork honors Whitestown's historic past by featuring old images of Whitestown as it looked in the late 1800's to early 1900's, while the front is very vibrant and busy, just like our Town is right now. We hope it will be an eye-catching burst of color right at our trail head that will make people smile." said Sumner.

The images on the back include Whitestown's former train depot, the old bank building, and the former schoolhouse. The artwork on the front of the Walking Man is bright and colorful, portraying our community's family-friendly feel, our ag-urban identity and our forward-looking future. Instead of traditional facial features, the face of Whitestown's Walking Man is a reflective chrome wrap. The idea is that each passerby can stand in front of the sculpture and see his or her own face within this piece of public art. The hashtag #WhitestownProud runs down Walking Man's front and back legs. Visitors are encouraged to take their picture with the Walking Man and tag the Town of Whitestown on Facebook and Twitter using that hashtag.

Although the Walking Man is Whitestown's first piece of public art, there are plans to add several more pieces. Discussions are happening now to add public art along Whitestown Parkway between Main Street and Veterans Drive.

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